## Listing of Claims

1-2.    (Cancelled)

3.  (Currently amended)  The input support method in a communication-type navigation system according to claim [[[1]] 8, ~~further~~ comprising a ~~sixth~~ further step of, when a response of candidate characters following the ~~updated~~ input character string is not received as a response from the server system in a predetermined period of time, transmitting again a request to search for the candidate characters and the number of candidates based on the ~~updated~~ input character string.

4.  (Currently amended) The input support method in a communication-type navigation system according to claim [[1]] 8, ~~further~~ comprising a ~~seventh~~ further step of, when a response of the candidate characters following the ~~updated~~ input character string and the number of candidates pertaining to the ~~updated~~ input character string is belatedly received from the server system due to a communication delay, storing data of the belated candidate characters and the number of candidates into the cache memory.

5.(Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) The input support method in a communication-type navigation system according to claim [[1]] 8, wherein the navigation apparatus makes an address search.

7. (Currently amended) The input support method in a communication-type navigation system according to claim [[1]] 8, wherein the navigation apparatus makes a POI search.

8. (New) An input support method in a communication-type navigation system in which an on-vehicle navigation apparatus and an external server system are connected via a communication network and the on-vehicle apparatus is provided with a cache memory, comprising the following steps:

a step of, every time a character is inputted with an input device at the on-vehicle navigation apparatus, searching for candidate characters for next input and the number of candidates pertaining to an input character string in the cache memory,

a step of, when there are not the candidate characters and the number of candidates to be searched for in the cache memory, transmitting a request for search of the candidate characters and the number of candidates to the server system by sending the input character string to the server system,

a step of searching the candidate characters and the number of candidates pertaining to the input character string in the server system in accordance with

the request for search of them, and transmitting the searched results from the server system to the on-vehicle navigation apparatus,

a step of storing the searched results from the server system into the cache memory to make use of later search,

a step of, when a further character is inputted with the input device at the on-vehicle navigation apparatus before receiving the searched results from the server system, temporarily displaying the character string with the inputted further character,

a step of, when the searched results from the server system is belatedly received after temporarily displaying the character string with the inputted further character, correcting the inputted further character in the temporarily displayed character string and displaying the candidate character of the searched results.